

isopropyl alcohol has a metals content of less than about 1 ppb and a water content of less than about 100 ppm. Optionally, the process includes the step of passing the high purity isopropyl alcohol through an ion exchange resin after removing the high purity isopropyl alcohol from the separation column, thereby forming an ultra-high purity isopropyl alcohol that contains less than 100 ppt of any metal impurity.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9. The process of claim 8, wherein said overhead stream comprises about 5 to 30 wt.% of said feed stream and said bottoms stream comprises about 5 to 30 wt.% of said feed stream.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are pending in the present application. The specification has been amended to correct grammatical errors only. Claim 9 has been amended for clarification purposes only. No new matter has been added to the specification or claims by the amendments.

The Office Action (Action) objects to the abstract of the disclosure because of the inclusion of legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as the term "comprising". Applicants respectfully submit that the Abstract has been amended to remove such legal phraseology.

The Action rejects claims 1 through 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

(a) The claimed term "at least about 99.9 wt % isopropyl alcohol" in claim 1(a) is cited by the Action as being indefinite because there is no indication as to what range of specific activity is covered by the term "about". It is respectfully submitted that the scope of the term "at